

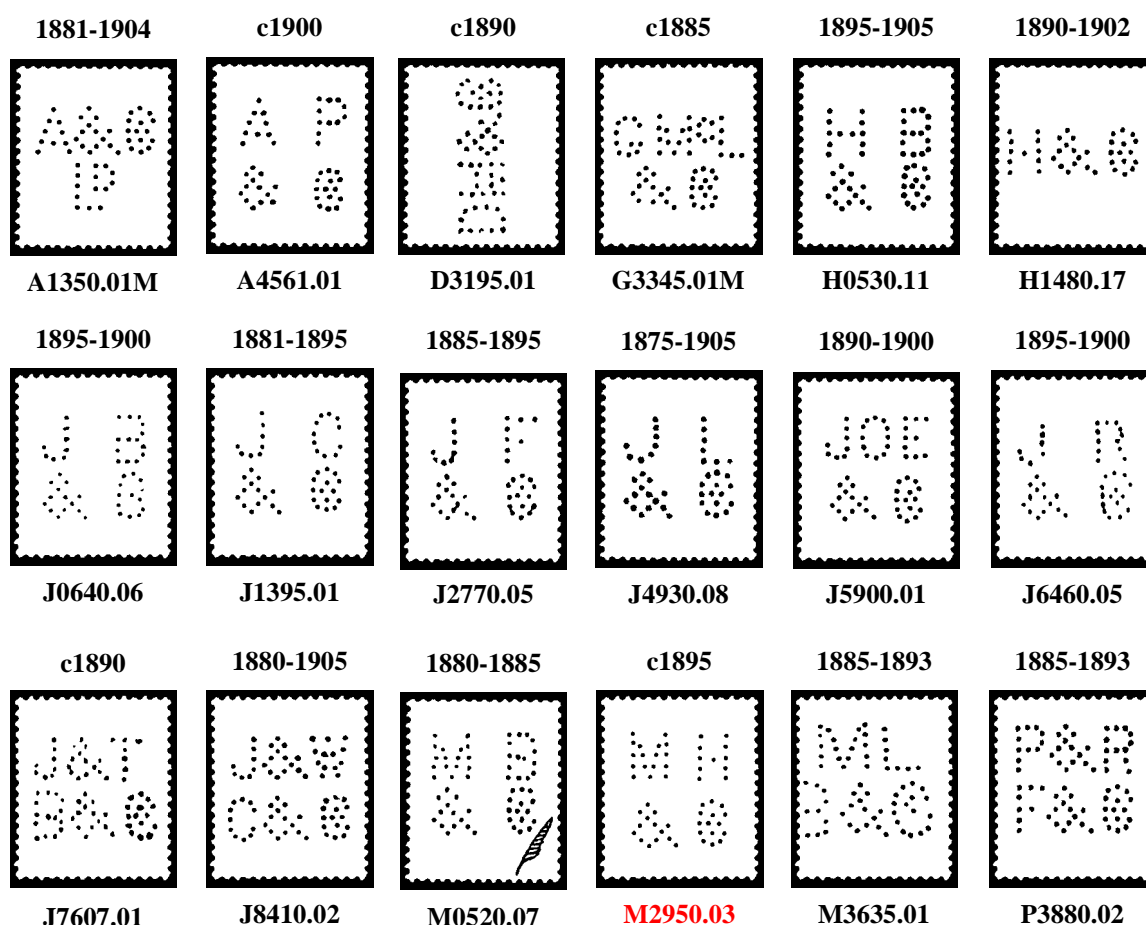
A Possible Glasgow Perforating Machine Maker - "Mr OinCo".

Way back in the Spring of 1996, while compiling sections of the then new Section 'J' of the 'New Illustrated Catalogue of GB Perfins', a cluster of seven Perfins were found which all had a characteristically similar "°" in the "C" forming the "C°" part of the Perfin. More than that, they all had *Glasgow* postmarks, pointing to a Glasgow Perforating Machine Maker. For ease of referring to this unknown maker, he was simply called "*Mr OinCo*".

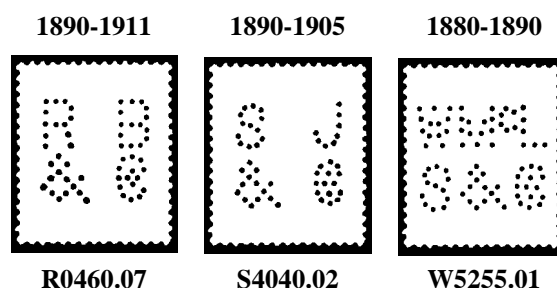
Over the intervening years the embryonic list of seven has grown to over twenty, all showing the characteristic "°" in "C" for "C°", plus another die possibly from the same Glasgow maker. On top of that, two of the original "Mr OinCo" dies were later modified involving the removal of the "C°" portion. All are tabulated at the end of this study along with the silhouettes shown below.

Based on the available evidence, the working period of our Glasgow maker was **1875-1900**. The earliest date reported so far is *21st July 1881* on the fairly common die "J&W/C&C°" (J8410.02), known used by *J & W Campbell & Co*, Warehousemen, 137 Ingram St, Glasgow. All the dies in the study had stopped being used by end of the Edwardian era, c1911.

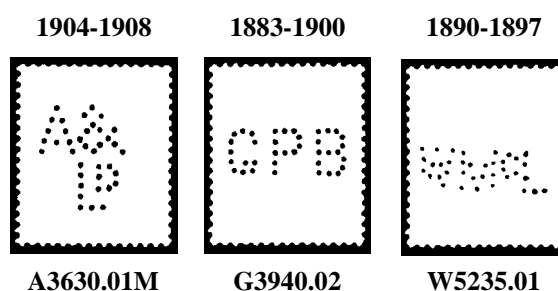
Silhouettes of the dies involved.



The exception to the 'used in *Glasgow*' rule is highlighted in **Red**. It was used in *Manchester*.



None of the following show the characteristic “o” in “C” for “C^o”, two by virtue of its removal!



Perfin Society member **John Mathews** has been researching who the elusive “Mr OinCo” might have been, and notes that all the known users of the “Mr OinCo” style Perfins were located within half a kilometre radius from the centre of Glasgow, on the north side of the river Clyde. The following is a précis of John’s article which appeared in Bulletin N^o.375 (December 2011).

*In the 1881 Glasgow directory the advert shown below can be found which refers directly to ‘perforating machines for bills, stamps, etc’. Turning to an 1878 directory though does not show this company, but shows **J & H Ramsay**, and as the 1881 advert says **M’Laren & Meikle** were successors to **J & H Ramsay**.*



*In both the 1894/95 and 1904/05 directories, **M’Laren & Meikle** have similar advertisements which include ‘Perforating and Numbering Stamps’. Thus, the two companies taken together, cover the full range of the patterns of “Mr OinCo” and must be strong contenders. However there are other die manufacturers who may have produced perforating machines spanning a similar period - **Allan & Ferguson**; **James Boardman**; **Thomas Boston**; **David Crawford**; **David Cunningham**; **David Fleming**; **Gilmour & Dean**; **Archibald Hamilton**; **Maclure, MacDonald & Co**; and **The Metallic Art Co**. Those in **Bold** also describe themselves as “die sinkers”.*

This is a brief listing of the dies involved, many of which have identified users.

	Cat No.	Letters	Die in use	Earliest Date	Postmark
Dies involving "C^o".					
1	A1350.01M	A&C ^o /L ^d	1881-1904	22-Nov-89	Mainly '159' Glasgow
2	A4561.01	AP/&C ^o	c1900	---	---
3	D3195.01	DM&C ^o	c1890	---	'159' (Glasgow)
4	G3345.01M	GMcL/&C ^o	c1885	30-Sep-85	(M)aryhill (Glasgow)
5	H0530.11	HB/&C ^o	1895-1905		Glasgow
6	H1480.17	H&C ^o	1890-1902	15-July-90	Glasgow
7	J0640.06	JB/&C ^o	1895-1900	29-Jan-97	'159' Glasgow
8	J1395.01	JC/&C ^o	1881-1895	---	'159' Glasgow
9	J2770.05	JF/&C ^o	1885-1895	06-June-89	Glasgow
10	J4930.08	JL/&C ^o	1875-1905	23-June-83	'159' Glasgow
11	J5900.01	JOE/&C ^o	1890-1900	08-Oct-91	Glasgow
12	J6460.05	JR/&C ^o	1895-1900	15-Feb-97	'159' Glasgow
13	J7607.01	J&T/B&C ^o	c1890	---	'159' (Glasgow)
14	J8410.02	J&W/C&C ^o	1880-1905	21-July-81*	Mainly Glasgow
15	M0520.07	MB/&C ^o	1880-1885	---	'159' (Glasgow)
16	M2950.03	MH/&C ^o	c1895	---	'498' (Manchester)
17	M3635.01	ML/B&C ^o	1885-1895		'159' (Glasgow)
18	P3880.02	P&R/F&C ^o	1885-1893	01-Oct-88	(G)lasgow
19	R0460.07	RB/&C ^o	1890-1911	16-May-94	Glasgow
20	S4040.02	SJ/&C ^o	1890-1905	03-Aug-92	'159' (Glasgow)
21	W5255.01	WM ^c L/S&C ^o	1880-1890	---	'159' (Glasgow)
Dies without "C^o".					
22	A3630.01M	A&L ^d	1904-1908	07-Nov-04	Glasgow, and Leeds
23	G3940.02	GPB	1883-1900	31-Oct-83	'163' Greenock
24	W5235.01	WM ^c L	1890-1897	---	---

* Earliest date reported on a "Mr OinCo" die, although the appearance of "JL/&C^o" on Queen Victoria 1d Reds would be considerably earlier.

Updated information is in **Blue**.

Acknowledgements.

My thanks go to all the Perfin collectors who, over the years, have kindly provided stamp details for some of the more elusive dies listed in this study. The latest die, "J&T/B&C^o" (J7607.01) - probably used by J & T Brown & Co, Wholesale Tea Dealers, James Watt St, Glasgow - has only just been discovered by Ian Hamill (April 2015).

Thanks for the updates (**in Blue**) to Rosemary Smith.

And finally, if you can add anything new to the study, particularly any dies you think I might have missed or possibly not know about, *I'd be pleased to hear from you!*

Roy Gault - **23rd May 2015**.